

Bloomfield Gazette.

Office,.....At the Post Office.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 7th, 1873.

Salutatory.

The objects had in view in establishing the BLOOMFIELD GAZETTE, are fully expressed in other columns: we propose here to state briefly, but clearly, the *General Principles* which will control its management.

1. *It will not be partisan.* While as individuals, we hold decided opinions on political and religious subjects, it is not our intention to assert or defend the claims of any party or denomination. Communications on such subjects will be received, and all sides shall have a fair hearing.

We believe the Bible to be the foundation of all true religion and morality; and as such will uphold its teachings, its circulation and its use. Temperance, Purity, the observance of the Sabbath, and whatever tends to elevate man and make him happy, will be supported and defended.

Corruption in office being the cause of a people's degradation and destruction, shall be unhesitatingly denounced, whenever known to exist, whether in town, county, State or nation, no matter to what party the criminal may belong.

2. As the safety, strength and progress of a republic depend on the intelligence and morality of its members, we are in favor of having children educated by the State, in Free Public Schools. These schools should teach morality as well as impart intellectual knowledge. They should be so good that the children of the poor will have every opportunity to obtain a good education; while the rich will be unable to find better ones for theirs. Special attention will be given to this subject.

3. One of the most pressing questions of the day, and which is receiving the careful attention of all thinking men, is that of Woman's Work. There are some positions for which she is by nature peculiarly fitted; that, for instance, of the care and instruction of children. Nearly eighty per cent. of the teachers in the State are females; and this proportion is steadily increasing. She also very naturally guides the needle and the sewing machine, and is employed in most matters pertaining to female dress and ornament. But, beside all these, and the many toiling at household work, there are multitudes who must find something else to do, or starve. What shall it be? We will endeavor to answer this question, and defend woman's claim to many kinds of work now monopolized by man.

4. *Public Improvements.* In many communities there are those who would improve matters by overturning and changing everything possible, while others are in favor of letting "all things remain as they were from the foundation of the world." The GAZETTE will recommend a *middle course*, leaning probably to the *progressive* side. It will favor judicious improvements.

5. In conclusion, we will endeavor to deal justly and conscientiously with all, and ask from them in return a kind indulgence, instead of captious criticism.

The Post Office.

The business done by a Post Office, and the method of conducting it, are good indications of the character and intelligence of a community.

In 1861, there were received for delivery through the P. O. in Bloomfield, about 12,000 letters, and 250 papers, religious and secular. A large increase took place during the next two years, chiefly due to letters received from our soldiers who were absent from their families in the defence of their country. On their return business fell back to very nearly its former state.

In 1866, the P. O. Department directed two mails a day to be sent to and from this office: the people were not slow to avail themselves of the facilities thus offered, and the business has steadily increased, until at this present time, there are received annually about 55,000

letters and upwards of 900 papers, periodicals and pamphlets, to actual subscribers. The transient matter would nearly double the number.

On July 1, 1869, through the exertion of our energetic Postmaster, a Money Order Office was established by the Department; and during the first year some \$2,000 were remitted. During the last fiscal year (ending June 30, 1872), there were remitted from this office by money orders on different Post Offices in the United States, about \$6,000; and orders drawn on the office were paid to the amount of \$4,000. It remained the *second* money order office in Essex County—that at Newark being the *first*—until July 1, 1873, when the Orange office became the *third*. No means for the transmission of small sums of money presents such security as the M. O. System. At the simple cost of five cents remittances of ten dollars can be made on any M. O. Office in the United States.

A Little Talk with our Readers.

The first number of the GAZETTE—of the first newspaper hailing from Bloomfield—is in your hands. How do you like its appearance—its size—its name—its contents? We promised to do the best we could, and trust we may escape censorious criticism for our first number; but we expect to do better and better in succeeding numbers, as we get more experience and receive more aid from the literary talent, and practical wisdom, for which our town has been noted, and which we are confident still pervades this community.

ITS EDITORS.

Our purpose was to remain incognito. But as the thought of the paper developed and expanded, and we needed counsellors and friends for the enterprise, we found that to assume disguise and try to conduct the journal as an impersonality, would detract from its popularity, its efficiency, and perhaps peril its very life. Those whose interest in the success of the paper prompted their opinions, advised that our names should be placed at the head of the journal. In deference to their judgments our modesty retired, and we, with seeming boldness, because we may not refuse, stand forth openly as the responsible editors of the GAZETTE for six months.

ITS PATRON FUND.

It was well known that, even though the editorial labor and conduct of the journal would, during its probationary period, be without charge, yet the expenses of paper, printing, expressage, clerical service, stationery, etc., amounting probably to \$1,500, or more, would not be met by the receipts from subscriptions and advertisements.

Therefore it was proposed to raise \$500 as a cash fund to aid and secure the success of the enterprise. This it was thought could best be obtained in sums of \$10 each, from fifty of our fellow townsmen. Our confidence in the liberality of this community has been fully realized by the cordial and prompt response of a sufficient number to make up the required amount. We call this OUR PATRON FUND, and only render honor to whom honor is due by appending their names.

Jay L. Adams,
Jno. Archdeacon,
Rob. J. Beach,
W. S. Baldwin,
J. R. Bartholomew,
Jason Crane,
Fred. Crane,
G. W. Cook,
J. H. Chambers,
J. M. Chalmers,
G. H. Coggeshall,
Wright F. Conger,
W. B. Corby,
Horace Dodd,
Dr. J. A. Davis,
Amos Dodd,
Edmund H. Davey,
Josiah F. Dodd,
M. W. Dodd,
Chas. M. Davis,
H. Hawkesworth,
Jas. A. Hedden,
H. Lindenmeyr,
T. W. Langstroth,

Wm. P. Lyon,
Ang. T. Morris,
Dr. E. Macfarlan,
Thos. McGowan,
A. G. McComb,
J. R. McDivitt,
David Oakes,
Isaiah Peckham,
Rob. Peale,
O. W. Powers,
C. Poloubet,
W. R. Peters,
E. W. Page,
J. W. Potter,
Horace Pierson,
W. G. Raynor,
W. D. Ravenhill,
J. W. Snedeker,
J. O. Spalding,
Jno. Sherman,
Thos. H. Taylor,
O. J. Turner,
A. W. Thompson,
V. G. Thomas,
E. S. Wilde.

COOPERATION.

We must add this important word to all. This Gazette belongs to Bloomfield. It is the interest of all, and it is incumbent on all to sustain it. In our population of nearly six thousand people, this paper should have 1,000 subscribers; but as we can hardly expect

every sixth person to become a subscriber, let all that can, take two or more copies, and send them to acquaintances and friends elsewhere. This will be a practical way of carrying out one object of the paper—to wit, making our town known abroad.

Also it must not be forgotten that the support of the paper is to depend largely upon its advertising patronage. Our business men and our people generally should do all in their power to increase its income from this source.

ESPRIT DU CORPS.

Let the spirit that animates the editors infect and pervade the entire community. With no private or selfish ends to serve, we gratuitously devote much time and thought and labor to this enterprise. Cherishing large and sanguine expectations for its success and for the consequent benefits which cannot fail to accrue from it to our loved and honored village, we shall be greatly disappointed if these advantages do not ere long manifest themselves to all discerning persons.

May it not prove a bond of union among the people? May we not then ask all to rally around its banner, defend its honor, heed its warnings, and support its claims?

Let our citizens be penetrated with the conviction that only in union and mutual respect is strength, progress, and prosperity.

Bloomfield must be one people, one body. Ridgewood, Morris Neighborhood, Montgomery, Berkeley, Watsessing, enviroing the Park and business centre; and we are quite willing to add Stone House Plains on the north and Dodd Town on the south.

We will not encourage cliques in politics, or bigotry in religion; we will not cherish partizanship or sectionalism.

Every member of the body politic is our brother, and entitled to the free, unhampered exercise of his independent, conscientious judgment. Every part of the town—North, South, East, West and Central—is our village, and has our affectionate and interested regards, and shall also have our cheerful, prompt approval of any measure to promote its facilities, its comforts, its healthfulness, its advancement. We must indulge in no invidious comparisons, but stand by each other, urging forward all proper and feasible improvements in every section.

We may have other things to speak of in our next number.

"GAS."

The Bloomfield Gas Light Company, though chartered in 1869, was not organized till June last. It starts, with a capital of \$50,000, and the following well known gentlemen as Directors: Joseph A. Davis, M. D., President; John H. Chambers, Samuel J. Potter, Henry E. Richards, and James A. Hedden, of Bloomfield, and Andrew A. Smalley and Eugene Vanderpool, of Newark. Sufficient land for the erection of the works has been purchased near the canal, and bricks are arriving on the ground already for the structures. The company evidently mean business.

As Montclair and Belleville will depend upon this company for material illumination, it is not yet decided whether to construct one large gasometer, or to erect three lesser ones, one for each locality. The work, however, is to be pushed forward rapidly to completion at an early period next year. Therefore we may rely on soon having another "modern improvement" supplied to all our dwellings, stores and streets.

Many of our readers have seen the account of the appalling catastrophe of the burning of the Aspinwall Steamer Bienville, at sea last week. It may not be generally known, that one of our own citizens, Mr. Arthur D. Temple, of Ridgewood Avenue, was a passenger on that vessel. While it is sad enough to contemplate the loss of life under these circumstances, and the destruction of the noble vessel by fire, we desire gratefully to acknowledge the merciful goodness of God in the rescue of so many, and especially of our friend, Mr. Temple, from that appalling death.

The Bloomfield Library Association are now obtaining plans for their building. The lot located on the S. W., Corner of Broad and Liberty Sts., is the site which has been chosen for their purpose.—The hearty Cooperation of the public is solicited in this important enterprise, a full account of which will publicly be given in next number.

A communication from our East Orange correspondent will appear in our next.

Respecting our Colored People.

There are considerable intelligence and enterprise manifested among the colored population of our town, especially as shown in their religious zeal. Their Sunday-school, established and nurtured for many years by Mr. Joseph A. Davis, Jr., and his associates, is now thriving under the superintendency of Mr. F. R. Batchelder, with a recorded membership of 60, mostly adults. This is not denominalational.

They have also lately fitted up, at an expense of several hundred dollars, the old school house in Morris Neighborhood, where Sabbath services are held, including preaching in the evening. There is a marked improvement among this class of our population of late years—an awakened intelligence, and an increasing industry and thrift that are very perceptible and gratifying.

J. H.

Thinking Aloud.

Of course every Bloomfielder, and many others, will read our Journal for the coming six months—this first Bloomfield newspaper—with avidity from beginning to end. Of course they will scan the ADVERTISEMENTS thoroughly, and will honestly admit that the total absence of "humburgery, claptrap and blowing" assures them of two things: first, the respectable character of the GAZETTE, and secondly, the evident candor and sincerity of the enterprising advertisers. Of course, after reading this paragraph, they will look over the advertisements again. Of course, therefore, as they shall need, from time to time, the articles, commodities, conveniences, or services advertised in our columns, they will at once exclaim—"O, I saw those things advertised in the BLOOMFIELD GAZETTE, at Mr. So-and-so's store, and will go right away there and furnish myself with what I want." And then, of course, we shall commend their wisdom in so doing.

No man ever gets his money's worth out of a newspaper unless he reads the advertising columns attentively. They inform him who are the live-business men of the town, and he also finds out where he can obtain the best bargains.

Is it not remarkable that so few of the streets in this populous village are without sign boards at the corners to make known their respective names? Surely such a palpable defect as this can easily be remedied and ought to be. We cannot think of any improvement so desirable as this one which can be effected at so small a cost. If it be included among the many functions of our Town Board to look after this, may we not hope that it will receive their early attention?

At the same time would it not be well to consider the appropriateness and the elegance of the names themselves? Some are called streets and some avenues, but upon what principle the assignment is made is, in most cases, by no means apparent. It must be admitted that we have a few that are appropriate and therefore significant such as Bloomfield Avenue, Belleville Avenue, etc. But why should we be confused with the name of "Park," as Park Street, Park Place, Park Avenue, and, for ought we know, Park Terrace, Park Lane and Park boulevard! One of this name should be sufficient, as for instance the one running West from the head of the Park on which the German Church stands, should be known as *Park Street* all the way through to Washington Street or Avenue.

Book Keeping.

Nor the art, as taught in schools and practiced in business, of keeping accounts by single or double entry; but the reprehensible one of borrowing books and failing to return them. This is book-keeping with a vengeance. Pardon the expression, gentle reader; we speak feelingly. For, looking up at our shelves, we see many vacancies, the books that should fill them being in the hands of borrowers. Nor is this a solitary complaint; almost every lender has the same experience.

One of the greatest pleasures an owner of books can have, is that of lending them to appreciating friends; but one of the greatest annoyances is that of not having them returned. In this, as in all other cases of moral dereliction, thoughtlessness is no excuse.

"Evil is wrought
By want of thought,
As well as want of heart."

What is the use of a mind if you don't think with it? Why have a memory if you don't use it? The object had in view in writing this article will be lost if some of those who read it do not immediately hunt up the borrowed books

that are lying around their rooms, and return them to their proper owners. And we would also advise all borrowers to have a stated time, (say the last day of each month,) for looking over the books and periodicals in the house, and returning all that belong to others. We mention periodicals, for in these days when there is no end of making books, magazines, etc., the newspaper and magazine are extensively borrowed and extensively kept. To the lender we would suggest that a library record be put in a convenient place, and no book allowed to leave the house until noted. Then the owner will know where it is; and, after a reasonable time, may gently ask for it. In conclusion, we would call attention to "Lent or Lost," in our advertising columns.

CORNER LOUNGING.—It has long been a source of annoyance to our citizens, and especially the ladies, who have occasion to pass what is known as Wilde's corner—to encounter a crowd of idle, profane and insulting loungers. On several occasions ladies have been stared at with great disrespect, and obliged to listen to indecent remarks. The presence of such persons—even to say nothing of the remarks and tobacco-spittle one is obliged to encounter—is indeed a great evil, and should be abated at once. Now that special Constables have been appointed, let them see to it that our citizens are not thus annoyed any longer—and we shall be happy to commend their zeal as friends of good order.

THE Bloomfield and New York Rail Road Company have completed a large Derriek at their Depot in this place which will greatly facilitate the shipment of heavy freight.

BIRTHS.

There have been an unusual number of births, but lack of room, if nothing else, prevents mentioning names.

MARRIAGES.

There are a number of marriages in prospect, which will be announced in due time. Look out for them.

DEATHS.

"And must this body die—
This well wrought frame decay?
And must these active limbs of mine
Lie mouldering in the clay?"

BLOOMFIELD.

TOWN OFFICERS.

Judge of Election—Charles M. Davis.
Assessor—Joseph K. Oakes.
Collector—Joseph A. Davis, Jr.
Township Clerk—J. Banks Reford.
Chosen Freeholders—Thomas W. Langstroth, William Cadmus.
Surveyors of Highways—Charles Groshong, Nathaniel H. Dodd.
Commissioners of Appeal—Warren S. Baldwin, Horace Dodd, Reuben N. Dodd.
Overseer of Poor—William R. Hall.
Town Committee—Samuel J. Potter, Samuel Benson, Phineas J. Ward, James C. Beach, Joseph A. Davis, Abram Yerrance, John Sherman.
Constables—Charles S. Squier, Charles B. Hall, Thomas O. Vreeland, Richard Harvey.
Commissioners of Deeds—Thomas Taylor, Joseph K. Oakes.
The Town Committee meet in their rooms on the 2d and 4th Fridays of each month, at 3 o'clock P. M.

PRACTISING PHYSICIANS.

Dr. Joseph A. Davis, Dr. A. W. McDowell,
Dr. Wm. H. White, Dr. Chas. H. Bailey,
Dr. Edwin Ward, Dr. Louis Reimann,
Dr. J. B. Pitt, Homoeopath,
Dr. L. E. Phelps, Homoeopath.

MONTCLAIR.

Town Committee—D. V. Harrison, Chairman; Edmund Williams; Alfred Taylor; Alon Sigler; J. H. Love.
Town Clerk—Chas. O. Sanford.
Collector—E. C. Fuller.
Assessor—A. E. Van Gieson.
Road Commissioners—Nathan T. Porter, Chairman; Samuel Holmes; J. C. Brantigan; H. B. Littell; Thos. C. Van Ruyper.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—The Contributors to our "Patron Fund" are invited to meet the Editors in Conference, in the parlors of Archdeacon's Hotel, on Friday Evening, Sept. 13th, at 8 o'clock.

TAX NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given to all Tax-payers in the Township of Bloomfield, on the List of 1872, that said Taxes are due and payable before the 20th day of October next.

JOSEPH A. DAVIS, Jr., Collector.
Bloomfield, Sept. 7, 1873. sep7 3t

Central Union School District.

NOTICE.—Proposals will be received by the Trustees of the C. U. S. District, until Saturday, the 14th inst., for the position of Janitor of the new School House. He will be required to sweep and dust the school and class rooms, every school day; to open the house and remain until 9 o'clock in the morning; to be on the premises between 12 and 1 o'clock; to see to the pumps, and do whatever is required to keep the premises in good order. During the winter he will take care of the steam heater, and make and keep up the fire.

By Order of the Board of Trustees,
sep7 C. FLEURET, Clerk.

LENT OR LOST!

The following list comprises a few of the books whose whereabouts is unknown to the owner. Whoever finds one or more of them in his possession, will confer a favor by returning them: Appleton's Annual Cyclopaedia for 1870, Millman's Gibbon's Rome, Vol. 5, Amyas' Sergt Leigh, Kohl's Travels in Russia, Angel of the Iceberg, Gates Ajar, At Odds, Stepping Heavenward. (More anon) sep7



Thomas A. Davis
Bloomfield, N. J.
1869

www.fultonhistory.com